

SHRI A.C. JOS : Sir, the situation in Kerala is very serious. . . (Interruptions) It concerns the lives of about 80 lakh rubber growers in the State (Interruptions) The price of rubber which was Rs. 60 earlier is only Rs. 42 now (Interruptions) The entire cargo of the country is being supplied from my constituency Idukki and about 3,000 tonnes of cargo is being smuggled (Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : Shri Jos, please listen to me.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : If the matter is so serious, why are you raising it during the Zero Hour where you would not get a response from the Government? You cannot demand a response from the Government. Why do you not give a notice for a Calling Attention Motion? Give a notice for a Calling Attention Motion. That would serve your purpose better.

Yes, Mr. Jaswant Singhji.

(Interruptions)

SHRI A.C. JOS : Sir, I would give notice for a Calling Attention Motion.

MR. SPEAKER : That is the right way.

(Interruptions)

PROF. P.J. KURIEN (Mavelikara) : Sir before that you should direct the Government to intervene . . . (Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : What more really the Chair can give you than suggesting to you to give a notice for a Calling Attention Motion? You bring the Calling Attention Motion, I would admit it. What also do you require

(Interruptions)

PROF. P.J. KURIEN : Sir, thank you for your support.

[Translation]

SHRI NITISH KUMAR (Barh) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I want to draw your attention towards an issue which was discussed in this House earlier also during the last session and a consensus had also emerged on it in the House. The employees of Regional Rural Banks are continuously agitating. The members of Parliament had shown unanimity in favour of their demands. Today they are again here demanding that the agreement which was reached upon in respect of regional rural banks and banking industries as per the sixth pay commission should be implemented in the regional rural banks also. I, through you, urge upon the government to give its kind consideration to this issue and adopt a liberal attitude. Rural banks in our neighbouring country, Bangladesh, are functioning very

well. Regional Rural Banks in our country can also function successfully provided they get Government's cooperation. The Government should extend its cooperation to these rural banks.... (Interruptions)

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : Let him make his submission. Why are you disturbing him? He is doing it very well. So effectively he is presenting his case and your case as well.

[Translation]

SHRI NITISH KUMAR : Mr. Speaker, Sir, the members of all parties had expressed the same views on this issue. A Standing Committee have also submitted its report in this regard, but inspite of all these facts the Government are not implementing the agreement. I would request you to kindly direct the Government to take action in this regard.

Just now an hon'ble member Shri Rajesh Ranjan has raised a point pertaining to finance less education policy in Bihar. In the last session also when I had raised this issue, you had directed the Government to respond to my point. This matter has been taken up by the Human Right Commission also. Mr. Speaker, Sir, situation is very worst in Bihar, thousands of teaching staff, numbering nearly two and a half lakh, and non-teaching staff are faced with difficulties in schools and colleges. Twice they have been lathi charged. Yesterday, also they were treated mercilessly and roughly. You had given instructions to the Union Government to look into the matter. Shri Ram Vilas Paswan is present here. Whether he is not aware of the situation? The Members belonging to other states had expressed their dismay over such developments and asked with surprise whether such incidents can take place? You, yourself, had expressed surprise over such incidents.

MR. SPEAKER : Nitishji, you had asked for only one minute, now, you have spoken for five minutes.

SHRI NITISH KUMAR : Sir, you may direct the Government again to comply with your instructions. . . . (Interruptions)

[English]

SHRI SRIBALLAV PANIGRAHI (Deogarh) : Sir, I would like to raise a very serious situation being faced by the people of Orissa, in the absence of adequate Central assistance the drought situation is deteriorating further. (Interruptions)

[Translation]

PROF. RASA SINGH RAWAT : Mr. Speaker, Sir, we extend our support to the issue raised by Shri Nitish Kumar, in respect of regional rural banks. The manifesto of all the

partys support the setting-up of Indian Rural Bank. It speaks in favour of the justified and proper demand of the regional rural banks. It also talks of the reorganisation of regional rural banks. . . .(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : I have promised that I will take it up with the Government. What also can I do?

. . . (Interruptions)

[Translation]

PROF. RASA SINGH RAWAT : We extend our support to him.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : I will personally bring this matter to the notice of the Government. I have promised it to Shri Nitish Kumar.

. . . (Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : Panigrahi, yesterday the Prime Minister had gone to Orissa.

SHRI SRIBALLAV PANIGRAHI : That was in a different context.

MR. SPEAKER : I know it was in a different context. But I believe that he is going to make a statement in the afternoon. You can ask questions at that time.

SHRI SHRIBALLAV PANIGRAHI : Sir, as you know, Orissa is facing a serious drought situation. It is a national calamity.

MR. SPEAKER : We had agreed yesterday that immediately after the Question Hour we would take up the Bofors issue.

SHRI SRIBALLAV PANIGRAHI : I will stick to one minute. This is a national calamity of unprecedented dimension and it requires substantial Central assistance for providing short term and long term relief measures. It is true that both the Prime Minister and the Minister of Agriculture have visited the State and they have all sympathy for the people of Orissa. But having sympathy alone does not anything unless that sympathy and the assurance given in the course of their visit are not reflected in real action. The Government of Orissa demanded about Rs. 577.78 crors under different heads. Do you know what is the amount provided so far? We have been provided a meager sum of Rs. 4 crore only. Sir, during his visit to Kalahandi and Bolangir, the Prime Minister assured that Rs. 58 crore will be provided to the State of Orissa but not a single pie out of that has been released. Are they

ridiculing the sufferings of the people of Orissa? It is a backward State. Now that the summer is approaching, the scarcity of drinking water will pose a serious threat. . . .(Interruptions) The money is not available. Even the Governor, in his address to the Assembly, has expressed concern over the indifferent attitude of the Government of India towards the State of Orissa. Now, there is discontentment over this issue all over the State of Orissa. A substantial assistance should immediately rush to Orissa. This is what I would like to appeal to you. You know how bad the situation is in Orissa. You may kindly direct the Government to do the needful.

MR. SPEAKER : We are already half-an-hour behind the schedule because we wanted to take up the Bofors issue immediately after the Question Hour. My request on this issue is. . .

. . . (Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : I will give you a chance tomorrow.

[Translation]

SHRI BRAHAMANAND MANDAL (Monghyr) : I want to raise the matter of train robbery which took place in my constituency. No such incident of train robbery has ever taken place there since independence. We do not get chance to speaker.

MR. SPEAKER : I will give you a chance tomorrow.

[English]

I do not know how do you want to run the House? You can run it the way you want. I will not run the House. There is a limit.

[Translation]

SHRI BRAHAMANAND MANDAL : Do you want to punish us? We don't get chance. Why are we not given opportunity to speak? Why? Everytime it is said that either tomorrow or day after tomorrow we will be given a chance to speak. Why is it so?

MR. SPEAKER : O.K. speak, whatever you want to speak, and run this House.

SHRI BRAHAMANAND MANDAL : Mr. Speaker, Sir you may check the records and ascertain yourself as to how many times you have given me any opportunity to speak.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : Why are you interfering like that?

(Interruptions)